



Notification of Intent to Extend an Existing Degree Program

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Delivery Mechanism: On-site; WHETS; online **CIP Code:** 51.1601

Location: WSU Tri-Cities/Walla Walla

Implementation Date: Fall 2004

Statement of Need: The state of Washington State was estimated to have a 9% shortage of nurses in 2000, which is expected to increase to 23% by the year 2010, compared to 12% nationally. By the year 2020, the national shortage is projected to be 29%, while the shortage in Washington will be as high as 43% (National Center for Health Workforce Analysis, 2002). A recent survey of the current and projected labor and training needs in Benton and Franklin Counties by the Community Health Alliance in Tri-Cities (February, 2002) identified registered nurses as their most critical labor need as well as the most difficult need to meet. The agencies projected 524 openings for RNs in the next five years. Over 50 qualified applicants are turned away every year by the Columbia Basin College Nursing Program. In order to address the complex health care needs of this underserved and rural population, there is a critical need for more baccalaureate prepared nurses in the region. It is recognized that it will take the full efforts of both WSU and the Columbia Basin College Nursing Program to meet the health care needs in the TriCities.

Source of Funding: Internal Reallocation and High Demand Enrollments

Enrollment Targets:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 5
Headcount	10	22	22	22
FTE	10	20	20	20

Internal Approval: Extending the BS Nursing degree program to WSU Tri-Cities/Walla Walla was approved by the Faculty Senate on April 15,2004.